

Remarks

The specification has been amended at page 1 to set forth related applications, to which the present application claims the benefit of priority.

The specification has also been amended consistent with the requirements of the Examiner as set forth in the Office action mailed September 1, 2000 in parent application Serial No. 09/149,886. Additionally, an Abstract has now been submitted.

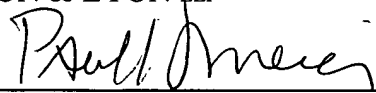
Claim 1 has been amended to expedite examination of the present application, and in view of subject matter already allowed in related Application Serial No. 08/860,993 (now Patent No. 6,139,850).

In particular, independent claim 1 has been amended to specify that the claimed topical formulation is packaged with instructions directing that the composition be administered to animal skin, and to specify that the composition is effective to inhibit irritation at the site of administration. Support is seen in claim 69 as originally filed in parent application Ser. No. 08/362,100 (December 21, 1994 -- reciting packaging with instructions for administration), and also, for example, in the clinical tests described at pages 44-56 of the specification (anti-irritant effect measured at the site of skin administration).

It is recognized that the filing of a terminal disclaimer may be necessary in the present case, in view of applicants' already issued patents including Patent No. 6,139,850, No. 5,804,203 and No. 5,716,625. It is requested, however, that this matter be held in abeyance until such time as the subject matter has been examined against the prior art, including prior art that has already been cited in the course of the parent applications and in connection with Patent No. 6,139,850.

Respectfully submitted,

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